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only the families but the genera and subgenera within the families, except in the case of the Muridæ, with its 200 names, which are alphabetized under the subfamilies.

These three lists—Dr. Trouessart's, Mr. Thomas's, and Dr. Palmer's—supplement each other admirably, the omissions in one being supplied by the other two, so that the work of the specialist in this group has now become greatly simplified and lightened as regards its nomenclatorial side.

J. A. A.

**A New Human Tapeworm.**—In 1896 Prof. H. B. Ward, of the University of Nebraska, announced the discovery of a new human tapeworm, two specimens of which had been received by him from a Lincoln, Nebraska, physician. The new species was described as possessing characters in many respects intermediate between those of the two well-known species of *Tænia* found in man (*T. saginata* and *T. solium*), and for that reason was named by Ward *Tenia confusa*.

Only one of the two specimens received by Ward bore the scolex or head, which was "remarkably small," and unfortunately was detached by him for more careful study than was possible in its natural position. Ward's published description and figure of this scolex, he admits, would answer well for that of *Dipylidium*, and he is not now himself certain that he did not confuse the scolex, in the course of its preparation for microscopic examination, with that of a *Dipylidium*. That important portion, therefore, of the description of the new species, which concerns the scolex, must be held in abeyance until additional specimens are obtained.

Michael F. Guyer, a pupil of Professor Ward, in a recently published paper,<sup>1</sup> gives a detailed account of the anatomy of the new species as made out from a careful study of the specimens received by Ward in a headless condition and, unfortunately, none too well preserved.

Guyer finds that the proglottides of the new species are about as numerous as those of *T. solium*, but much longer and narrower, making its total length two or three times that of *T. solium*, and about the same as that of *T. saginata*, which, however, bears nearly twice as many proglottides. The branches of the uterus, one of the most conspicuous characters of a ripe proglottis, number from fourteen to twenty; in *T. solium* there are from seven to ten branches, and in *T. saginata* from twenty to thirty.

<sup>1</sup> *Zool. Jahr.*, Bd. xi (1898), pp. 1-24, Taf. 28.

Calcareous bodies are few in number, as in *T. solium*, but only about one-tenth as large; they are of about the same dimensions as those of *T. saginata*, but much less numerous.

Other characters enumerated by Guyer might be mentioned, in respect to which *T. confusa* occupies an intermediate position between *T. saginata* and *T. solium*. How widely the new species occurs is, of course, unknown. It may be that the existence of this intermediate species, has merely been overlooked heretofore; another possibility suggests itself — can it be that these apparently rare specimens are hybrids between *T. solium* and *T. saginata*, a thing, to be sure, unheard of heretofore, but not for that reason impossible. W. E. C.

**Zoological Results of Dr. Willey's Collecting Trip.**<sup>1</sup> — Naturalists have been looking with eager anticipation for the publication of the results of the three years' expedition of Dr. A. Willey to New Britain, New Guinea, and the Loyalty Islands. These results have now begun to appear in book form. Part I has just come to hand. This volume comprises papers by Dr. Willey on the Anatomy and Development of *Peripatus Novæ-britanniæ*; P. Mayer, *Metaprotella Sandallensis*, *n.sp.* [Caprellidæ]; Boulanger, on a Little-known Sea Snake from the South Pacific; Pocock, Report on the Centipedes and Millipedes; Sharp, Account of the Phasmidæ, with notes on the eggs; Pocock, Scorpions, Pedipalpi, and Spiders.

The account of the new *Peripatus* is perhaps of most general interest. It represents a new-subgenus, *Paraperipatus*. The ova are small and without yolk, and many embryos, in all stages of development, may occur in the uteri of one female. The embryos lying in the uteri receive nourishment from the mother and are born in a more complete condition than in any other species of the genus. This paper is accompanied by four plates.

**The Common Toad.** — It is a matter of congratulation for teachers of nature studies in our schools when a well-trained scientific worker will turn aside to put in an attractive form the story of a common object. This has been done by Prof. S. H. Gage, who in a pamphlet of some twenty pages has given an account of the life history and habits of the common toad.<sup>2</sup> The treatment of the subject, while

<sup>1</sup> Zoological Results, based on material from New Britain, New Guinea, Loyalty Islands, and elsewhere, collected during the years 1895, 1896, and 1897, by Arthur Willey, D.Sc., London. Pt. i, Cambridge, 1898. 11 pls. The Macmillan Company.

<sup>2</sup> Gage, S. H. The Life History of the Toad, *Teacher's Leaflets*, prepared by the College of Agriculture, Cornell Univ. (April, 1898), No. 9.